

# “B” Rated Weeds

A weed of economic importance which is regionally abundant,  
but may have limited distribution in some counties

## Biddy biddy

*Acaena novae-zelandiae*

Other common names: bidibid, bidgee-widgee, piri-piri bur

USDA symbol: ACNO4

ODA rating: B



**Introduction:** Bibby-biddy is native to New Zealand. It is believed that the plant first spread to the U.S. and other countries in the wool of imported sheep.

**Distribution in Oregon:** The first official record of biddy-biddy in Oregon dates from 1951 in Curry County. Currently only Coos and Curry Counties contain infestations near the coastline.

**Description:** This low growing perennial forb stands only four to eight inches tall. Biddy-biddy spreads by stolons that root at the nodes creating dense vegetative mats in pastures and lawns. Leaves are alternate and finely dissected, with mature plants having 5 to 11 leaflets 1/4-2/3 inches long. Flower heads are spherical, and turn into a round bur that disperses as a unit when mature.

**Impacts:** The species prefers open, disturbed, well-drained sites, including stable dunes, open scrub, grassy areas, and high traffic locations in coastal habitats where some summer moisture is available and frosts are infrequent. Plants thrive on poor soils and compete with native plants on coastal bluffs and in lawns where it forms dense mats.

**Biological controls:** No biocontrol agents are available.

